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Viewing cable 05NEWDELHI909, INDIA: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN 2005

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#05NEWDELHI909**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
05NEWDELHI909	2005-02-04 11:55	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy New Delhi

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/the-india-cables/article1576796.ece>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 07 NEW DELHI 000909

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/03/2015

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ECON](#) [ETRD](#) [EAID](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [KPKO](#) [XD](#) [IN](#)

SUBJECT: INDIA: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN 2005

Classified By: Ambassador David C. Mulford, Reason 1.5 (B,D)

[11.](#) (S) Summary: With political momentum in its favor, the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) expects to solidify its hold on power in 2005. SIPDIS
civilian and military coordination between the USG and India to deliver immediate relief to Sri Lanka and Indonesia. We hope the successful ou

Internal Politics

[12.](#) (C) In the eight months since his unexpected victory in the May parliamentary elections, former Finance Minister Manmohan Singh steadily c

[13.](#) (C) Domestic politics returned to the fore after the disastrous tsunami that hit India at the end of 2004 momentarily diverted attention a

[14.](#) (C) By the end of 2005 it will become apparent whether Congress and its UPA allies have solidified their hold on power. If the BJP/NDA dc
Congress takes control of the Chief Ministership in the fall.

Indo-Pak

[15.](#) (S/NF) when viewed in comparison to 2002/2003, India's relations with Islamabad have improved significantly. The LOC cease-fire, which re

[16.](#) (C) New Delhi appears content with the current pace of engagement with Islamabad, and is clearly interested in trying to erase the "'trust

NSSP

[17.](#) (S) In completing Phase One of the Next Steps in Strategic Partnership (NSSP) in September, the UPA succeeded in doing what the previous N

Military Relations

[18.](#) (C) The Indian military has embarked on an ambitious modernization program starting with revising its Army doctrine, procuring cutting-edg

[19.](#) (C) The Indian Air Force has extended the deadline for the US to submit a bid on 126 multi-role fighter aircraft to replace India's aging

Economic Outlook

[110.](#) (SBU) During his first seven months as PM Manmohan Singh signaled his intention to keep market-oriented reforms moving forward. He asse

[111.](#) (C) Finance Minister Chidambaram submitted a Mid-Year Review to Parliament on December 13 concerning the state of the economy after the f

[112.](#) (SBU) Because of leftist opposition, labor law reform and the privatization of most state-owned companies appear to be off the table, alt

Iraq

[113.](#) (C) The GOI expressed high-level interest in providing training and other material assistance for Iraq's January 30 elections. However,

Regional Engagement

[114.](#) (C) India's "'Look East"' policy and PM Singh's personal interest in pursuing close economic ties with Southeast Asia, as well as India's

[115.](#) (C) Progress on SAFTA (South Asia Free Trade Area) negotiations leading up to the planned January 2006 implementation date will be a prir

[116.](#) (C) Bangladesh: Press reports indicate that PM Singh may not attend the SAARC summit in Dhaka, which was to be the site of the first bil

[117.](#) (C) China: India's engagement with China is likely to maintain its upward trajectory in 2005. China will continue to figure prominently

[118.](#) (C) Nepal: The February 1 dismissal of the government by King Gyanendra complicated the India-Nepal relationship. While the GOI describ

[119.](#) (C) Afghanistan: India welcomed President Karzai's re-election and expressed a desire for successful Afghan Parliamentary elections. Wit

Trafficking in Persons

[120.](#) (C) Initially placed on Tier II in the 2002 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) certification baseline survey, India slipped to the Tier II Speci

[121.](#) (C) While the previous government virtually refused to discuss the TIP issue, the UPA administration has been open to exploring greater a
SIPDIS Women and Child Development (DWCD) have been very pro-active. Strong Embassy efforts at the highest levels are bearing fruit. The GOI

[122.](#) (C) We understand that the DWDC Secretary will be appointed as the nodal interagency TIP coordinator and that she will chair an interagenc

Social Issues

¶23. (U) HIV/AIDS in India is at a critical stage. With at least 5.1 million people infected, the number of people living with the disease is
Comment

¶24. (C) US-India relations are increasingly dynamic, firmly on track and further improvement is all but inevitable. There are few major impec
MULFORD